

## DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

## RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE

STRATEGIC GOAL/OBJECTIVE	ACTUAL 2002	ESTIMATE 2003	ESTIMATE 2004
<b>Strategic Goal EM: Embrace high standards of ethics, management, and accountability.</b>			
Discretionary BA (Dollars in Thousands)	\$14,650	\$13,150	\$14,300
FTE			
Headquarters	36	39	39
Field	...	...	...
Subtotal	36	39	39
S&E Cost (Dollars in Thousands)			
Personal Services	\$3,621	\$4,138	\$4,250
Travel	65	51	53
Rent, Communications & Utilities	0	0	0
Printing	344	319	324
Other Services	3,125	2,692	3,470
Supplies	47	54	55
Subtotal	7,202	7,254	8,152
<b>Strategic Objective EM.3: Improve accountability, service delivery, and customer service of HUD and our partners.</b>			
Indicator: At least 80 percent of key users (including researchers, State and local governments, and private industry) rate PD&R's work products as valuable.	NA (Next survey in 2004)	NA (Next survey in 2004)	80%
Indicator: More than 3.2 million files will be downloaded and accessed from PD&R's website.	3.2 million	3.2 million	3.2 million

EXPLANATION OF PERFORMANCEPerformance/Means and Strategies

The Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) proposes \$14.3 million in program funding and \$8.152 million in S&E funding, for a total of \$22.452 million to support Strategic Goal EM: Embrace high standards of ethics, management, and accountability.

The mission of the PD&R is to provide reliable facts and analysis to inform the policy decisions of HUD, Congress, and State and local governments. R&T funds enable PD&R to fulfill this mission by maintaining and expanding information on housing needs and market conditions, evaluating current HUD programs and proposed policy changes, and conducting research on a wide range of housing and community and economic development issues, including advances in housing technology.

The overall funding includes a specific set aside of \$7.5 million for program evaluations underlining the importance of this effort for GPRA and performance measurement.

PD&R has a broad support role in HUD, evaluating the Department's programs and informing policy decisions to make programs more effective. The funding for PD&R's expanded program evaluation activity is included within this goal. One facet of PD&R's work involves providing quality research products to outside researchers and policymakers which is captured with the research-related performance indicator [6.2 Improve accountability, service delivery and customer service of HUD and our partners], "At least 80 percent of key users rate PD&R work as valuable." PD&R conducted a survey and evaluation in 2001 to determine whether customers found PD&R research products relevant, useful and well prepared. HUD research was found to be rated highly and cited frequently in academic literature, although a need for greater methodological rigor was noted. PD&R attained the performance goal in 2001 and we will reassess our research products in a similar survey in fiscal year 2004. In intervening years PD&R will continue to monitor user opinions through mail surveys and other feedback on its research.

Specific areas of research in support of goal EM follow:

- **Program Evaluations.** In an effort to strengthen the accountability of HUD programs for results, PD&R plans to substantially increase funding for HUD program evaluations in fiscal years 2003 and 2004 compared to fiscal year 2002. Based on input from the Secretary and program offices within HUD, PD&R will develop a plan for its program evaluation activity to ensure that it advances key policy objectives and leads to regular periodic evaluations of major HUD programs.
- In addition to the many program evaluations referenced elsewhere in this summary, program evaluations under consideration for fiscal years 2003 and 2004 include: an evaluation of assisted living conversions and other initiatives to appropriately house the aging elderly, a study of the Housing Choice Voucher administrative fee structure, a study of landlord relations in the Housing Choice Voucher program, a study of the outcomes for people leaving housing assistance, and a study of the factors leading owners to opt-out of the project-based Section 8 program and the effectiveness of policies to preserve this housing stock.
- **Performance Management (GPRA).** PD&R provides analytical and staff support for the department's performance management process. PD&R will also continue its research program to improve HUD's ability to measure the direct effects of HUD's programs. The American Housing Survey, program evaluations and special-purpose research efforts provide and validate performance data about program impacts.
- **Reducing errors in income and rent determinations.** PD&R supervises periodic evaluations of the income and rent determinations of HUD's rental assistance programs to gauge the magnitude of errors and develop recommendations for reducing them. This is included in the President's Management Agenda and is a key priority for the Department.

#### Resource Management Information

In fiscal years 2003 and 2004, PD&R requests 39 FTE for Strategic Goal EM. This is an increase of 3 FTE over the fiscal year 2002 FTE level. The three additional FTE requested in Headquarters will be utilized to provide support in program evaluations. S&E contract funds are required for contract services for temporary support staff throughout PD&R. Printing and supplies funding is requested in the Other category and are required for the dissemination of PD&R's research products.